



General Assembly

January Session, 2009

Governor's Bill No. 6394

LCO No. 2679

* ____HB06394PS____031009____*

Referred to Committee on Select Committee on Veterans' Affairs

Introduced by:

REP. CAFERO, 142nd Dist.

SEN. MCKINNEY, 28th Dist.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE MILITARY FAMILY RELIEF FUND.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 27-100a of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 (a) As used in this section, (1) "department" means the Military
4 Department, (2) "fund" means the Military Family Relief Fund
5 established in accordance with this section, (3) "eligible member of the
6 armed forces" and "eligible member" means a member of the armed
7 forces, as defined in subsection (a) of section 27-103, including the
8 Connecticut National Guard, [who is on active duty and] who is
9 domiciled in this state, (4) "immediate family member" means an
10 eligible member's spouse, child or parent who is domiciled in this
11 state, or any other member of an eligible member's family who lives in
12 the same household as the eligible member, and (5) "essential personal
13 or household goods or services" includes, but is not limited to, repairs,
14 medical services that are not covered by insurance, transportation,
15 babysitting, clothing, school supplies or any other goods or services

16 that are essential to the well-being of an eligible member's immediate
17 family.

18 (b) There is established, within the General Fund, a separate,
19 nonlapsing account to be known as the "Military Family Relief Fund".
20 The account shall contain (1) any amounts appropriated or otherwise
21 made available by the state for the purposes of this section, (2) any
22 moneys required by law to be deposited in the account, and (3) gifts,
23 grants, donations or bequests made for the purposes of this section.
24 Investment earnings credited to the assets of the fund shall become
25 part of the assets of the fund. Any balance remaining in the account at
26 the end of any fiscal year shall be carried forward in the account for
27 the fiscal year next succeeding. The State Treasurer shall administer
28 the fund. All moneys deposited in the account shall be used by the
29 Military Department for the purposes of this section. The Military
30 Department may deduct and retain from the moneys in the account an
31 amount equal to the costs incurred by the department in administering
32 the provisions of this section, except that said amount shall not exceed
33 two per cent of the moneys deposited in the account in any fiscal year.

34 (c) The Military Department shall use the Military Family Relief
35 Fund to make grants to immediate family members of eligible
36 members of the armed forces for essential personal or household
37 goods or services in this state if the payment for such goods or services
38 would be a hardship for such family member because of the military
39 service of the eligible member. The department shall not make any
40 grant that exceeds the balance available for grants in the fund.

41 (d) The department shall establish an application process that is
42 simple for immediate family members. The department shall act on
43 each application no later than seven days after the date on which the
44 completed application is submitted to the department.

45 (e) On or after six months from June 30, 2005, after evaluating the
46 performance of the program during the preceding six months,
47 including available resources and applications received, the

48 department may commence the process to adopt regulations, in
49 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, that would facilitate the
50 purposes of this section, including, but not limited to, establishing a
51 maximum amount of each grant, of each type of grant or of grants to
52 the immediate family members of any eligible member, and
53 establishing criteria for the approval of grant applications. The
54 department may implement the policies and procedures contained in
55 such proposed regulations while in the process of adopting such
56 proposed regulations, provided the department publishes notice of
57 intention to adopt the regulations in the Connecticut Law Journal no
58 later than twenty days after implementing such policies and
59 procedures. Policies and procedures implemented pursuant to this
60 subsection shall be valid until the earlier of the date on which such
61 regulations are effective or one year after the publication of such notice
62 of intention.

63 (f) On or before October 15, 2005, and on or before the fifteenth day
64 following the close of each calendar quarter thereafter, the department
65 shall submit a report to the select committee of the General Assembly
66 having cognizance of matters relating to veterans' and military affairs,
67 in accordance with section 11-4a, that contains the following
68 information for the preceding calendar quarter: (1) The number of
69 applications received, (2) the number of eligible members whose
70 immediate family members received grants under this section, (3) the
71 amount in grants made to the immediate family of each such eligible
72 member, (4) the uses for such grants, and (5) any recommendations
73 regarding the Military Family Relief Fund, including any proposed
74 legislation to facilitate the purposes of this section. Such reports shall
75 not identify the name of any eligible member or of any immediate
76 family member. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of
77 section 1-210, all information obtained by the Military Department that
78 contains the name or address of, or other information that could be
79 used to identify, an eligible member or an immediate family member
80 shall be confidential.

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	27-100a
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PS *Joint Favorable*